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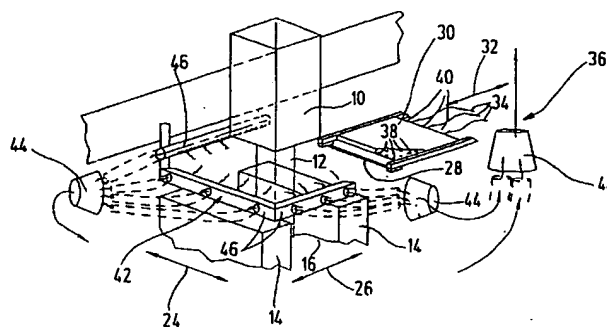
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated states except the U.S.):
- (72) Inventor: **HANSEN, Bernd** [DE/DE]; Talstr. 22-30,  
74429 Sulzbach-Laufen (DE).
- (74) Representative: **BARTELS AND PARTNER**;  
Lange Strasse 51, 70174 Stuttgart (DE).

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(54) Title: **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PRODUCING AND FILLING CONTAINERS**



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method and a device for producing and filling containers. According to the invention, at least one tube (12) made of a softened plastic material is extruded into an open mold (16), the leading end of said tube (12) is welded when the mold (16) is closed in order to form the bottom of the container, the tube (12) is cut in two above the mold by means of a cutting element (28) so as to form a feed hole (18), and the mold (16), along with the tube (12) comprising the open feed hole (18), is moved into a filling position in which the container is filled and then sealed after being configured in the mold (16) by generating a pressure gradient that acts upon the tube (12) and expands the same. The feed hole (18) of the tube (12) is covered by a sterile barrier (30) at least from the moment said feed hole (18) is formed to the time the associated container is filled in a sterile space. A high degree of sterility is obtained by the fact that at least one sterile medium (34) is conveyed in the direction of the feed hole (18) by means of the sterile barrier (30) and a medium-conveying device (36).

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]

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*Reference is made for an explanation of the two-letter codes and the other abbreviations to the Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations in the front section of each regular PCT Gazette edition.*